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Huddersfield Open Access Publishing

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The Huddersfield Open Access Publishing (HOAP) Project¹ aimed to develop a low cost sustainable Open Access (OA) journal publishing platform using EPrints Institutional Repository software in order to disseminate University of Huddersfield Press journals. The project was funded by JISC and led by Computing and Library Services at the University of Huddersfield, in conjunction with the School of Education and Professional Development and the Research and Enterprise Directorate.

The HOAP platform

The principle aim of the project was to develop a platform to convert the peer reviewed University journal, *Teaching in Lifelong Learning*, from a print subscription model to an OA e-journal. After discussions with EPrints, a specific front end interface was created for the journal, with content being archived in the University Repository. The journal landing pages² and contents pages follow a specific template. This enabled title specific branding for future journals launched by the University Press to be created easily with no or little additional development costs.

The creation of the journal landing pages and the volume/issue pages is fully automated. The articles are uploaded into the Repository using the existing workflows. The first article of a new issue automatically creates a new entry on the landing pages and a new issue page by referencing the ISSN, year, volume, issue and page numbers in the articles. Each subsequent article deposited is then listed on the journal pages. The efficient workflow means that an entire issue can be uploaded in around 30 minutes. The articles themselves maintain the standard Repository branding linking back to the journal landing pages on the platform. This simplified process aids discovery, e.g. the article only has one instance in the Repository and can be discovered through the Repository, landing pages Google (Scholar), and in due course, the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)³ and thus retrievable from resources discovery systems such as Summon.

The IRstats package from EPrints is used to monitor usage for all articles. This also allows authors to see their own statistics immediately. In addition the 'impact' of a particular volume can be measured over time using the reporting feature on the IRStats administration pages, e.g. Volume 3 (2) has had papers downloaded from 14 countries around the world within 5 months of publication.

As part of the project, the Press joined CrossRef⁴; this entailed creating DOIs for 42 articles in the journals back run and the annotation of around 200 references. It was also agreed that the Press become a member of the Committee on Publishing Ethics (COPE)⁵, a forum for editors and publishers of peer-reviewed journals to discuss publication ethics.

The move from a subscription model to an OA model required a complete revision of the notes for contributors. A new 'Licence to Publish' has been written to replace the previous copyright transfer agreement, allowing the author to retain the copyright under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License (cc-by)⁶, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction, provided the original work is correctly cited.

Huddersfield Research Review

The second objective of the HOAP project was to assess the feasibility of a new title, *Huddersfield Research Review*. This title aims to showcase the most significant research at the University of Huddersfield by including interviews with the authors of the most cited and/or downloaded articles in the Repository together with an editorial overview by a senior

researcher who will locate Huddersfield research within the broader national and international literature in the relevant fields and disciplines.

Other journals

An audit of the University's journals resulted in the addition of two further titles during the project, *Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Research and Practice* and *RADAR*. These titles have now been assigned DOIs. 5 other titles could also be hosted on the HOAP platform, including 2 new peer-reviewed OA titles, it is intended to launch these titles during 2012 using guidelines inspired by a presentation given by Damien Short at the launch event a sister JISC project, SAS Open Journals⁷.

Toolkit

In order to disseminate its output, the project developed a toolkit⁸ for other institutions, and features sections on:

- Moving to Open Access
- Setting up the landing pages using EPrints
- Adding content
- Dissemination
- Workflows
- Setting up a new journal
- Setting up a best of research title
- Appendices

In addition, the notes for contributors, Licence to Publish and notes for reviewers are reproduced for others to use, the project hopes the toolkit will inspire other institutions to investigate OA journal publishing.

Social Media

Computing and Library Services at Huddersfield has been experimenting with social media and web 2.0 tools and technologies since 2005⁹ and the project was very keen to encourage reader comments and ratings and social tagging as part of the publication process. Although this has been partly achieved through the bookmarks and sharing features of the existing Repository, RSS feeds and automated tweets for new articles, and through the project blogs and Tweets, the project team wanted to go one step further by encouraging authors and readers to use social media based on the recommendations of the RIN report, 'If you build it, will they come? How researchers perceive and use web 2.0'¹⁰. The Repository will be implementing the SNEEP (Social Networking Extensions for EPrints)¹¹ suite of social networking extensions as part of the next release of EPrints. This will allow readers of the journal (as well as all other Repository content) to comment, tag and make notes once they log in.

Recommendations

The final project report will be available later in 2012 and will discuss a number of recommendations for the wider community, including best practice guidelines, further development of the PIRUS2¹² project, a role for the JISC Journals Usage Statistics Portal (JUSP)¹³ to run custom reports for OA journals and the suggestion of an audit of other UK universities with a view to depositing the metadata in a central repository; such as the Knowledge Base+¹⁴ project?

There is still further work to be done, particularly at the national level, however, as stated by the Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Journals White Paper in its opening paragraph, "Open access publishing has arrived"¹⁵.

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